

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS TOSHU 27 TOECO 30

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SHULTZ, GEORGE AND CASEY, WILLIAM J.)

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SUMMARY

SPECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER FIVE

1. VIEWS OF SHAH ON OIL AND OTHER PRICES

THE SHAH RECENTLY DISCUSSED INCREASED CRUDE OIL PRICES IN INDONESIA, NIGERIA AND LIBYA WITH AMBASSADOR HELMS AND COMMENTED, "IT WOULD NOT MAKE SENSE FOR US TO ASK LESS FOR OUR OIL THAN THEY ARE GETTING FOR THEIRS."

THE SHAH THEN MENTIONED THE HIGH PRICES OF FOOD AND OTHER COMMODITIES IN THE US AND INDICATED A CONCERN THAT HIGHER OIL PRICES WILL CAUSE EVEN FURTHER INCREASES IN THE PRICES OF GOODS WHICH IRAN MUST IMPORT. EMBASSY TEHRAN COMMENTS THAT THE SHAH IS TORN ON THE ONE HAND BY THE NEED TO KEEP HIS INTERNATIONAL IMAGE AS A LEADER IN PETROLEUM AFFAIRS INTACT AND ON THE OTHER BY A GROWING REALIZATION OF THE DIRECT EFFECTS OF INTERNATIONAL PRICE INCREASES ON IRAN'S OWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. (SECRET) TEHRAN 6505, 9/13 (EXDIS).

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2. OPEC TO DEAL WITH INFLATION AND BUY-BACK PRICING

A SAUDI OFFICIAL HAS INDICATED TO EMBASSY JIDDA THAT THE SEPTEMBER 15 OPEC MEETING IN VIENNA WILL BE

LIMITED TO A REVISION OF THE TEHRAN INFLATION FORMULA AND PERHAPS TO A REVISION OF BUY-BACK PRICES TO GIVE GOVERNMENTS A FAIRER SHARE IN THE EXCESS PROFITS OF THE NEW MARKETING SITUATION. THE EMBASSY COMMENTS THAT THIS SAUDI THINKING SHOULD PREVAIL AT VIENNA, BUT THAT CORRIDOR TALK THERE COULD DEAL WITH THE FUTURE OF PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 3954, 9/12.

3. OASIS PRODUCTION IN LIBYA TO RISE

THE MANAGER OF OASIS OIL IN LIBYA HAS TOLD EMBASSY TRIPOLI THAT OASIS HAD BEEN GIVEN FLEXIBILITY BY THE GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE PRODUCTION BY ABOUT 13 PERCENT. THE MANAGER WAS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OASIS. ALTHOUGH THE COMPANY IS HAVING DIFFICULTIES OBTAINING EXPATRIATE PERSONNEL, THE POPULAR COMMITTEES OF LIBYAN WORKERS ARE CAUSING NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS. OASIS IS CONCERNED THAT ONE-SIXTH OF ALL PRODUCTION IS OWNED BY SHELL AND COULD BE ATTACHED BY SHELL AS HOT OIL. (CONFIDENTIAL) TRIPOLI 1183, 9/13.

4. JORDANIAN OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON CAIRO TRIPARTITE SUMMIT

ABU ODEH, A JORDANIAN OFFICIAL CLOSE TO HUSSEIN, COMMENTS THAT RESTORATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND JORDAN WAS OBVIOUS FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE TRIPARTITE SUMMIT MEETING. HE FEELS THAT SADAT IS DELIBERATELY MOVING AWAY FROM THE ALGERIANS AND LIBYANS IN ORDER TO OCCUPY A MIDDLE GROUND IN ARAB AFFAIRS. ODEH ATTRIBUTES THE SYRIAN DELAY IN REOPENING RELATIONS WITH JORDAN TO THE FEDAYEEN PROBLEM. HOWEVER, HE BELIEVES ASSAD WILL PUSH IT THROUGH. (SECRET) AMMAN 4902, 9/13 (EXDIS).

5. AUSTRALIA TO SELL WHEAT ON CREDIT

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PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM MADE A SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT ON SEPTEMBER 11 THAT THE AUSTRALIA GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TWELVE MONTH TERMS TO PAY FOR AUSTRALIAN WHEAT, AND IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES WILL EXTEND TERMS BEYOND TWELVE MONTHS. EMBASSY CANBERRA FEELS THE ANNOUNCEMENT AROSE FROM A CONCERN IN THE CABINET THAT THE WHEAT BOARD WOULD ATTEMPT TO MAXIMIZE CASH SALES

THIS COMING SEASON WHICH WOULD RESULT IN SALES LARGELY
TO WEALTHY COUNTRIES AND AN INEQUITABLE REDUCTION IN

SALES TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)
CANBERRA 5065. 9/13.

6. ISRAELI-SYRIAN DOGFIGHT OVER SYRIA

THE ISRAELI AND SYRIAN AIR FORCES CLASHED IN THE VICINITY
OF TARTOUS, SYRIA, SEPTEMBER 13 IN WHAT APPEARS TO HAVE
BEEN THEIR BIGGEST AIR BATTLE SINCE THE 1967 WAR. ISRAEL
CLAIMS IT DOWNED 13 SYRIAN MIGS AND LOST ONE IAF MIRAGE.
SYRIA ON THE OTHER HAND CLAIMS ITS AIR FORCE SHOT DOWN
FIVE ISRAELI JETS AND LOST EIGHT SYRIAN MIGS. (SECRET)
USDAO TEL AVIV 1314Z SEP 73 AND AP 81, 9/13. RUSH

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